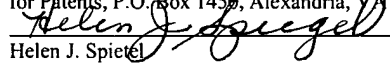


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Helen J. Spietel

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Wayne Chen et al.
Assignee: KLA-Tencor Corporation
Title: System and Methods for Classifying Anomalies of Sample Surfaces
Application No.: Not yet assigned Filing Date: Herewith
Examiner: Michael Patrick Stafira Group Art Unit: 2878
Docket No.: TNCR.178US2

San Francisco, California
March 1, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir/Madam:

Please make the following changes herein.